

54 [7]. The method of claim 53, wherein said automation in step (I) or (L) is implemented by employing a replicating robot, picking robot, spotting robot, spotting tool, automated pipetting or micropipetting system, or fluorescent assisted cell sorting (FACS) system.

55 [8]. The method of claim 2, wherein said visual differentiation in step (B) is based on a difference between host cells in different activation states of the readout system which can be detected by visual means.

56 [9]. The method of claim 55, wherein said difference between host cells in different activation states that can be detected by visual means is brought about by activation of one of the genes lacZ, gfp, yfp, bfp, CAT, luxAB, or of a surface marker.

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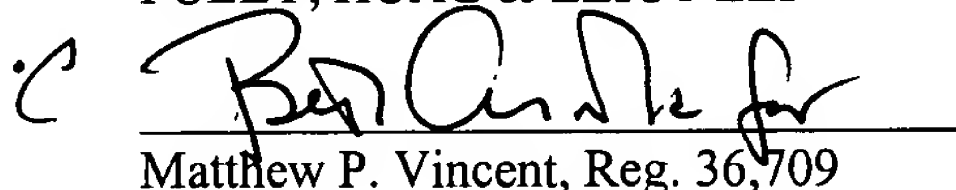
REMARKS

The above amendments are requested for the sole purpose of correcting the claim misnumbering which appears in the originally filed patent application. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and requests such action. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account No. 06-1448.

Respectfully submitted,

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